

THE MOUNTAINEER.

"DO WHAT IS RIGHT, LET THE CONSEQUENCE FOLLOW!"

NO. 35.

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THE MOUNTAINEER

EVERY SATURDAY.
OFFICE: North-West Room of COUNCIL CHAMBER, in the Mountain City.
JAMES FERGUSON,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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ADVERTISING.
(See Lines, or see, constitute One Square.)
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Every additional line for Six months 20 00
Every additional line for One year 35 00
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Poetry.

THE AMERICAN FLAG.

At this time, when probably a thousand
Of large and small, are flung to the breeze
In this city, and so much homage is paid
To the glorious Stars and Stripes, we deem it
A fitting occasion to publish J. Rodman Drake's
ode, as revised and improved by Mrs. Greene
Hallock. It is unquestionably one of the finest
pieces of American poetry ever written, and at
this particular juncture is calculated to make
the patriotic thrill run through the blood of
every lover of the Union.—*Am. Intelligencer.*

When Freedom from her mountain heights
Unfurled her standard to the air,
She tore the azure robe of night,
And set the stars of glory there.
The mingled with its gorgeous dyes
The milky lullaby of the skies,
And striped the pure celestial white
With streaks of the morning light;
Then from his mansion in the sun
The called her eagle-bearer down,
And gave into his mighty hand
The symbol of her chosen land.

Majestic monarch of the cloud,
Who rearest aloft thy regal form
To hear the trumpet's trumpet loud,
And see the lightning lance driven;
When stride the warriors of the storm,
And roll the thunder drum of heaven!
Child of the sun! to thee 'tis given
To guard the banner of the free!
To hover in the sulphur smoke,
To ward away the battle shock,
And lead its bleedings white afar,
Like rainbows in the cloud of war—
The hastenings of victory!

Flag of the brave! thy folds shall fly,
The sign of hope and triumph high;
When speaks the trumpet's signal tone,
And the long lines gleaming on
The yet the life-blood, warm and wet,
Has dim'd the glistening bayonet.
Each soldier's eye shall brightly turn
To where thy sky-born glories burn;
And as his quivering sword advances
Catch war and vengeance from the glance,
And when the cannon-muzzles loud
Have in wild wreaths the battle-shroud,
And glory's smoke and fire and fall
Like smoke of flame on midnight's hall—
Then shall thy meteor-glances glow,
And covering thee shall sink beneath
Each gallant arm that strikes below
That lovely messenger of death!

Flag of the seal on ocean's wave
Thy stars shall glitter o'er the brave;
When death, careering on the gale,
Sweeps darkly round the belted sail,
And lighted waves rush wildly back
Before the broadside's reeling rack,
Each dying wanderer of the sea
Shall look at once to Heaven and thee,
And smile to see thy splendors fly
In triumph o'er his closing eye!
Flag of the free hearts' hope and home,
By angel hands to valor given,
Thy stars have lit the welkin dome,
And all thy hues were born in heaven!
Forever float that standard stern
Where breathes the foe that falls before us,
With Freedom's soul beneath our feet,
And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us!

Selections.

TERRIFIC TRAGEDY.

ELEVEN PERSONS BURNED TO DEATH.

DUBLIN of late is becoming famous for
tragedies in which "the heart-strings of
humanity are strained," and people in
every condition and state of life are made
sorrowful. Only one short week since
"humanity was placed in mourning" by
one of the most lamentable catastrophes
that it can fall to the lot of a journalist
to record—a catastrophe in which six hu-
man beings met their death in an omni-
bus in the lock of a canal, in all but the
outer of a crowded city. Men, women,
and children were beginning to forget this
fearful tragedy, and to look upon it as a
terrible accident, when a more terrible
visitation became known to everybody in
the fact that eleven human beings were,
positively and without exaggeration,
roasted to death in a house in the very
center of the city in which they lived, and
paid taxes for preserving their lives and
properties.

Eleven human beings burned to death
without a single soul being able to render
them a particle of service, in one of the
most populous of the city, at a compar-
atively early hour of the night, is a fact
which appears with terrible force to all
signs for the dread disaster, all came
suddenly to the conclusion that the want
of a sufficient and prompt supply of water
was the cause.

The tragedy of yesterday morning was
one from which people will date for many
years to come, and will refer to with feel-
ings of horror and grief.

lugs of commiseration for the sufferers,
and point it out as a caution to those who
speculate on the security of life in this
city, as they tell of the sad fate of a whole
family, one of whom was to be married on
the day she met her fearful death!

Mary Ann Reilly, a fine girl of 18
years of age, was to have been wedded
yesterday. Her charred and cindered re-
mains lie with those of her poor mother,
her sister Agnes, and her brothers James,
John, and Matthew, on a heap of straw in
an outhouse of a livery stable in Cross
Kevin Street.

Along the streets a wretched and dis-
tressed maniac was to be seen, the father
of that family, wandering last night,
homeless and friendless. The fire that
consumed all he loved was burning in his
dry and tearful eyes; and such was the
greatest of his sorrow that he wandered
far and wide amongst the awe-stricken
crowd, and none attempted to offer him
comfort. He was a brand from the burn-
ing, and many said he would have suffered
less had he shared the fate of his house-
hold. His sorrow was held sacred by all,
and as he wandered, as it were, in search
of things he could not find, he excited the
tears and the heart sympathies of those
who saw him. But twenty-four hours
before this poor man was rich in the affec-
tion of all he loved—but now wife, sons,
daughters—all were snatched from him in
one "fell swoop," and he stood as lonely
in the front of his desolated and once
happy home as if he never had kindred or
a soul in this world that he could
love and cherish. Arrangements were
being made for the marriage of his first-
born, and he and his mother blessed her
as she retired to rest, and the poor old
couple, perchance, remembered the night
before they were wed, and the young folk
looked forward to a gala day, and retired
to their beds feverish with the hope of the
morrow's festivities!

Reilly, that is the name of the poor fel-
low, and his family were only part occu-
pants of the house, as seven families,
numbering thirty-two individuals, lived
under the same roof. All had retired to
rest at No. 9 Patrick Street, on Saturday
night; fires had been extinguished and
lights put out, save in the two pair front,
occupied by a man named Barker and his
wife. These people arrived home at about
twelve o'clock, and, in a short time after,
No. 9 Patrick Street appeared as quiet
and as unobtrusive of particular notice as
any other house in that densely-populated
neighborhood. The shop and lower pre-
mises were occupied by Messrs. Saunders
& Co., as a provision shop, and the upper
sections were set in tenements to the fami-
lies of operative tradesmen.

At twenty-five minutes past twelve
o'clock yesterday morning, the fire was
discovered by police constables, and with-
out loss of time they entered the burning
premises by the hall door. The second
pair front, in which the fire seems to have
originated, was enveloped in flames, and
could not be approached. The terror and
confusion within the burning premises are
more easily to be imagined, than describ-
ed. Half-naked women, and children half
delirious, just awakened from their sleep,
were to be seen rushing wildly through
the smoke and flame calling for the ab-
sent; others ran into the midst of the dan-
ger, in their anxiety to escape, and amidst
the scene of horror and confusion a mother
was to be observed coming out of the
dense smoke blackened with soot, blistered
and bleeding, bearing two of her child-
ren under her arms and one in her mouth!
Gasping and fainting she fought her way
to the street where she fell exhausted with
her precious charge.

Barker, in whose room the fire broke
out, was next seen bearing out his three
children, one of them fearfully burned and
mutilated; and as each poor creature, shiv-
ering and fearful issued to the street, a
person would be led to suppose that the
house on fire was a lunatic asylum, and
those who had escaped had been its de-
mented inmates. This opinion would be
regarded as true if the random muster-
rolls of the missing, as they were called
out by distracted men and women, could
be heard amidst the roar of the flames
through the crackling timbers and the
sympathizing shrieks of anxious but un-
availing benevolence that sought to do
everything, but nothing could be done.

It now became known that the major-
ity of the inmates were within the burning
house, and cut off by walls of flame from
any assistance. The cry was "water!"
everywhere, but not a drop was to be
had to save eleven of God's creatures
standing half-naked in front of the flames
that, glutted like, were licking up all be-
fore them. Every moment was an hour
of painful suspense, and as the night star-
tled and the tavern Sybarite came up to
gratify an idle curiosity, people asked them
vehemently did they see the engines com-
ing. These inquiries were answered in the
negative, and moment after moment a
human life was sacrificed in the burning
lazar house. Flame-bathed, a half dozen
poor creatures ran for their lives to the roof
of an adjoining house, where they crouched
naked and shivering in the thin morning
air, rendered more cold and biting by the
reeking atmosphere of smoke and flame
from which they had escaped. Before them
was the lurid blaze which every mo-
ment gained upon their temporary refuge,
and as they gazed with strained and wild
eyes on their approaching and terrible
death-swoon came to them through the
agency of four men of the Police Fire
Brigade. They contrived by passing lead-
ers from Plunkett Street across the roofs
of several houses, over which the brave
fellows passed with the agility of cats, to
render help at the imminent risk of their
own lives to the poor despairing creatures
on the roof. They rescued a Mrs. McGar-
ry and her two children from certain

death, and did not leave their work until
they bore off all the poor expectants in
safety from the roof. These men are wor-
thy of the highest reward, their superiors
or the community can bestow upon them.

The first engine was not on the ground
until half an hour after the fire was dis-
covered, and the last was not present for
an hour and fifteen minutes subsequent to
the alarm having been given. No. 4 fire-
escape arrived at 1.55 and on being placed
against the walls of the burning
house it caught fire and had to be removed
without rendering any assistance.
No. 1 fire-escape came up at 2.5, and
was placed against the adjoining house to
the one on fire. The conductor got on
the roof, where he remained for about ten
minutes, and returned by the hall door of
the burning house, without being able to
reach the eleven poor creatures who were
now past all human aid. The water came
slowly to the engines, but when it did
come it soon told on the flames, and got
them completely under at a quarter past
three o'clock. It was most heartrending
to see those who had escaped from the
burning looking for the missing members
of their families, who were now lying char-
red and cindered in a smoldering heap,
midst pools of water, in which their red
hot bones were steaming. Ten human
beings lay huddled together on the
drawing-room floor as they had fallen
when the upper floor gave way. In all
the chapters of horrors there was nothing
more horrible than this. The flesh
contracted by the heat was torn from its
place, and hung in burned masses on the
blackened bones. Splashes of skin were
to be seen on portions of a face, and a
partially injured arm or leg contrasted
horribly with the burned members adjoin-
ing them, which were nothing more than
masses of dark, wet ashes.

The bodies, or rather what remained of
them, were conveyed to York's Livery
Stables, Cross Kevin Street, and were
placed in an outhouse to await an inquest.
The deceased were—Mrs. Reilly and her
five children, namely: Mary Anne Reilly,
aged 18; James Reilly, aged 16; John
Reilly, aged 14; Matthew Reilly, aged 12;
John McGarry, aged 10; Rose McGarry,
aged 8; Wm. Forsythe, aged 2; and
Jane Forsythe, aged 4. Another inmate
of the fatal house is missing, and there
appears to be no doubt that he has been
consumed to ashes.

Thousands upon thousands visited the
scene of the disaster yesterday, and the
terrible calamity was spoken of with feel-
ings of awe and terror by men as they
passed the house within which a few hours
before one of the most terrific of horrors
was enacted.—*Dublin Freeman's Journal.*

A SOLDIER'S "RATIONS"

EVERYTHING relating to the subsistence
and comfort of a soldier in the United
States service is now of special interest to
the men and their friends. The following,
which we find in the *Lancaster (Pa.)*
Express, is taken from the regulations of
the United States Army:

A ration is "a portion or fixed allow-
ance of provisions, drink and forage, as-
signed to each soldier in any army for his
daily subsistence, and for the subsistence
of horses. Officers have several rations,
according to their rank or number of at-
tendants. Seamen in the navy also have
rations of certain articles." The following
is the soldier's ration as regulated by the
War Department:

"The ration is three-fourths of a pound
of pork or bacon, or one and a-fourth
pounds of fresh or salt beef; eighteen
ounces of bread or flour, or twelve ounces
of hard bread, or one and a-fourth pounds
of corn meal; and at the rate, to one hun-
dred rations, of eight quarts of peas or
beans, or, in lieu thereof, ten pounds of
rice, six pounds of coffee, twelve pounds
sugar, four quarts vinegar, one and a-half
pounds tallow, or one and a-fourth pounds
admiral, or one pound sperm candles,
four pounds of soap, and two quarts of
salt."

When the officers of the medical de-
partment find anti-scorbutics necessary
for the health of the troops, the command-
ing officer may order issues of fresh vege-
tables, pickled onions, sour-kraut, or mol-
asses, with an extra quantity of rice and
vinegar. (Potatoes are usually issued at
the rate of one pound per ration, and
onions at the rate of three bushels in
lieu of one of beans.) Occasional issues
(extra) of molasses are made—two quarts
to one hundred rations—and of dried ap-
ples of from one to one and a-half bushels
to one hundred rations.

In the regular army, as soldiers are ex-
pected to preserve, distribute, and cook
their own subsistence, the hire of citizens
for any of these duties is not allowed, ex-
cept in extreme cases. Ovens may be
hired or paid for by the subsistence de-
partment, but not bake-houses.

THE SPHYNX.

NEAR the Pyramids, more wondrous
and more awful than all else in the land
of Egypt, there sits the lonely Sphynx.
Conceivably the creature is, but the comeliness
is not of this world; the once worshipped
beast is a deformity and a monster to this
generation, and yet you can see that those
tips, so thick and heavy, were fashioned
according to some ancient mold of beauty
—some mold of beauty now forgotten—
forgotten because that Greece drew forth
Cytherea from the flashing foam of
Ægean, and in her image created new forms
of beauty, and made it a law among men
that the short and proudly wreathed lip
should stand for the sign and the main
condition of loveliness, through all ge-

nerations to come. Yet still there lives on
the face of the Sphynx, who were beautiful
in the fashion of the elder world, and Chris-
tain girls of Coptic blood, will look on
you with the sad serious gaze, and kiss
your charitable hand with the big pop-
ping lips of the very Sphynx. Laugh and
mock if you will at the worship of stone
idols, but mark ye this, ye breakers of im-
ages, that in one regard, the stone idol
bears awful semblance of Deity—un-
changeableness in the midst of change—
the same seeming will and intent for ever
inexorable! Upon ancient dynasties of
Ethiopian and Egyptian Kings—upon
Greek and Roman, upon Arab and Ot-
toman conquerors—upon Napoleon dream-
ing of an Eastern Empire—upon battle
and pestilence—upon the ceaseless misery
of the Egyptian race—upon the keen-
eyed travelers—Herodotus yesterday, and
Warburton to-day—upon all, and more,
this unworshiped Sphynx has watched and
watched like a Providence with the same
earnest eyes, and the same old, and tran-
quil mien. And we, we shall die, and Islam
will wither away, and the Englishman,
leaving far to hold his loved India,
will plant a firm foot on the banks of the
Nile, and sit in the seats of the Faithful,
and still that sleepless rock, will be watch-
ing and watching the works of the world,
busy race, with those same sad, earnest
eyes, and the same tranquil mien ever-
lasting. You dare not mock at the
Sphynx.

INFLUENCE OF TREES UPON CLIMATE.

JOACHIM FRÉDÉRIC SARTOW, Professor of
Botany at Copenhagen, speaks as follows
of the influence of forests upon the at-
mosphere:

"We find the most evident signs of it
in the torrid zone. The forests increase
the rain and moisture, and produce
springs and running streams. Tracts de-
void of woods become very strongly
heated, the air above them ascends pre-
cipitantly, and thus prevents the clouds
from sinking, and the constant winds
(trade winds or monsoons), where they
can blow uninterruptedly over large sur-
faces, do not allow the transition of va-
pors into the form of drops. In the
forests, on the contrary, the clothed soil
does not become so heated, and, besides,
the evaporation from the trees favors
cooling; therefore, when the currents of
air loaded with vapor reach the forests,
they meet with that which condenses them
and change into rain. Since, moreover,
evaporation of the earth goes on more
slowly beneath the trees, and since these
also evaporate very copiously in a hot
climate, the atmosphere in those forests
has a high degree of humidity, this great
humidity at the same time producing
many springs and streams."

THE FLIGHT OF ABRAHAM.

AND it came to pass, as Abraham was
resting from his journey, the angel of the
Lord came unto him by night saying—
Abraham, where art thou? And Abrah-
am answered, who are thou, and what is
thy desire, that thou shouldst command thy
servant at this late watch of the night?
And he answered and said, my Lord has
sent me unto thee, to warn thee that the
Philistines seek thy life, and have sent
messengers to fall upon thee as thou com-
est on thy journey; therefore get thee from
here by night, unto the city where thou
goest, and tarry thou not in all the plain,
for thy life's sake, stop not in all the bor-
ders of the Philistines, and when thou get-
test into the city, go thou into the street
called Franklin, and enter thou into the
house of one William whose surname is
Seward, and thou shalt be safe from those
who seek to devour thee. And Abraham
was sorely frightened, and he did as the
angel of the Lord directed, and called his
servants together, and the wise man did
get him to his place of safety.

And on the morrow as they tarried for
him by the way, behold it was noised
abroad he had fled unto the city by night
and was now in the house of his brethren.
And every man went unto his own
place.—*Louisiana Journal.*

SCIENTIFIC.

IN France, recently, the murderer of a
solitary railway passenger was detected by
the track he left when he sprang from the
train—the following process being
used to take an exact impression of the
foot-mark:

A sort of gridiron, made of wire, was
placed over the imprint, an inch from the
ground. On this gridiron was deposited
a thin piece of tin, covered with charcoal.
In a short time, the ground beneath was
heated to the desired extent. The grid-
iron was then removed, and with the aid
of a hair sieve the imprint was sprinkled
with a layer of stearine, reduced to an
impalpable powder, by dissolution in alco-
hol and sudden immersion in cold water.
The powder obtained by the precipitation
of this mixture is so light that its fall does
not change the position of a grain of sand.
As soon as it touched the hot ground, it
melted and disappeared. The soil was
then given time to cool, after which the
imprint, fully impregnated with the stearine,
was dug up, entire, and placed in a
piece of cloth, whose corners were then
gathered together, so as to form a kind of
sack. Moulding plaster was then poured
upon the imprint, and the operation was
complete. Such is the accuracy of this
process, that it not only reproduces the
outline of a foot, but every minute pecu-
liarity. If a bare foot, it shows the exact
shape of the sole, and the true position of
the toes; if a boot or shoe, the amount of
wear sustained by the sole and heel, the
number of nails, etc.

LATEST RELIABLE BY PONY.

THE pony arrived to-day at 3 p.m.
By it, through the kindness of a friend,
we have received clippings from the most
reliable papers in New York from which
we select and publish below:

Owing to the conflicting and very un-
reliable information conveyed by the tele-
graphic dispatches brought by pony, the
club, to which we were indebted for the
matter published in our former extras,
withdrew their subscriptions. The dis-
patches we cannot assure our readers
may be depended upon. Hence, while
we publish some of them, we commend
our readers to the items culled from reli-
able sources.

By private letters we learn that Mr.
—Martin of Madison, Wisconsin, has
been appointed Superintendent of Indian
affairs, in lieu of Col. Davis, removed.
The nephew of a Cabinet officer, we un-
derstand, accompanies him as chief-clerk
of his bureau.

The pony brings professed telegraphic
dates till the 30th; but no news later than
the 19th, and that not at all to be depend-
ed on. Those who know the general
character of telegraphic dispatches are
aware that they are prepared from the
wild unsentimental rumors, such as corre-
spondents make their money from.

It is true the parties are concentrating
their forces and buying up arms and am-
munition. They have been doing so a
long time. In ancient words—"How
long, how long?"

THE WAR MOVEMENTS.

It is stated that ninety-three companies
have been already mustered into service
in Mississippi, which completes the recent
recognition of eight thousand men made
upon that State by the authorities at
Montgomery. These are in addition to
the fifteen or twenty companies now at
Pensacola, comprising the requisition of
one thousand five hundred men first made.

The Governor of Georgia has been
tendered the services of 215 volunteer
companies, in addition to three regiments
already in service.

The name of Thomas Francis Meagher,
has been unanimously stricken from the
roll of honorary members of the Illerian
Society of Charleston, because of his
active services in behalf of the Northern
troops.

Revs. Wm. W. Berry, of the Methodist
Episcopal Church South, and Oscar A.
Sears, of the Catholic church, have of-
fered their services as chaplains of the
army of Virginia.

The buoy in Pamlico Sound, on the
Swash, and about the inlets of Curacoque
and Hatteras, have been removed.

The Palmetto Guard left Charleston
on Thursday last for Virginia. An im-
mense crowd of citizens accompanied them
to the depot.

At Tallahassee, Tallapoosa, Ala., a com-
pany has been organized for the war, and
over \$11,000 raised for the families of the
soldiers during their absence.

The steamer Marion left New York on
Saturday with 5,000 barrels of provisions
for the troops at Washington.

It has been decided to protect the
upper Mississippi River with armed steam-
ers and batteries of heavy ordnance.

Captain Thomas Francis Meagher, of
the Irish Zouaves, has returned from
Washington, to take command of his
company, and will make preparations for
their early departure to the seat of war.

"CONTRABAND OF WAR."

The following articles have been official-
ly declared as coming under the head of
"contraband of war" by the administration:

"Gold and silver coin; checks or bills
of exchange for money; articles of food;
clothing and materials for the manufac-
ture of clothing, rifle, pistol, musket and
cannon balls and shells; gunpowder and
all materials used in its manufacture; am-
munition and munitions and implements of
war of every description; books of military
education; saddles, harness and trappings
for flying artillery, field and staff officers,
and cavalry troops; horses; gun-carriages;
timber for ship-building; all kinds of
naval stores; engines, boilers and machin-
ery for boats; locomotive engines and
cars for railroads, and goods and commodi-
ties which might be made useful to the
enemy in war."

THE REGIMENTS IN WASHINGTON.

The following is a correct list of the
regiments that have reached Washington
and reported to the commandant of the
District since the President's proclama-
tion:
From Massachusetts—The 6th, 5th
and 8th Regiments, and Salem Zouaves.
From New York—The 7th, 11th, 12th,
25th, 69th, 28th and 5th Regiments and
Col. Ellsworth's Fire Brigade.
From Pennsylvania—The 5th, 4th and
6th Regiments, and First Artillery.
From Rhode Island—One Regiment
and a Marine Artillery company.
From New Jersey—The 1st, 2d, 3d
and 4th Regiments.
Troops belonging to the United States
service—Sherman's Battery, 2d Artillery,
3d Infantry and 400 Cavalry.
These, which were stationed in
Washington before, and the District mil-
itary volunteers, etc., render the calculation
of 31,000 troops not far from correct.

AFFAIRS AT PENSACOLA.

A dispatch, dated Mobile, May 8th,

says: The transports Dick-Kays and Henry
Lewis left here yesterday, laden with pro-
visions for Pensacola. On arriving off
Pensacola bar, at 5 p.m., they were stop-
ped by the Powhattan, boarded from that
vessel, and their papers and cargo ex-
amined. Commodore Porter granted per-
mission for the vessels to proceed to Pen-
sacola, remarking that he thought Gen.
Bragg might use the boats for conveying
troops to Santa Rosa Island, and that
they would be badly whipped after they
got there.

While the transports Keys and Lewis
were rounding to and getting under way,
the Brooklyn came up and ordered them
to follow her to the Sabine. Through
some misunderstanding, the Keys had
got under way for the bar, when the
Powhattan and Brooklyn both fired
across her bow. She immediately round-
ed to, when a boat's crew of armed men
were put aboard of her. The vessels were
compelled to lay to under the guns of the
Sabine till morning, when Lieut. Brown
endorsed on their papers a warning not to
attempt an entrance into the harbor or
they would be sent North as prisoners
of war, and their boats sold as prizes.
The vessels then started for home, and
were followed by the Powhattan until
they passed the Perdido river. They ar-
rived safely last evening.

WASHINGTON, MAY 18.

Six or seven weeks hence the Thirty-
seventh Congress will meet at the call of
Mr. Lincoln, and in it will be represented
the nineteen non-slaveholding States, and
Delaware, Maryland, and possibly Ken-
tucky and Missouri. At what stage they
will find the national controversy in July
no one can foretell. Open, flagrant and
destructive war may by that time have
resulted from the present preparations for
conflict. The chief business of the session
will, in any event, be to sustain what has
been done by the Executive, to authorize
new loans, and to augment the navy and
the regular army. Whether any measures
of conciliation will be attempted is doubt-
ful, though it is reported that the Pres-
ident will recommend certain amend-
ments to the Constitution, with a view to
conciliate the Border States.

New York is suffering as much from
the tariff and from the disturbance of her
foreign and domestic trade as any part of
the South can suffer from blockade. The
heavy and numerous commercial failures
that have occurred during the last fort-
night are so appalling that the press deems
it prudent to withhold them from the
public, and despondency begins to succeed
to the characteristic energy of the New
York merchant.

The banks will lend their gold to the
government because it is the only mode
whereby they can pay any dividends to
their stockholders. Offers of money to
the government for its support during the
present crisis amount to a ready to nearly as
much specie as the northern banks pos-
sess. It is the state of things in the
commercial emporium at the beginning of
the civil war, what will it be a year
hence? Now there is a demand for our
breadstuffs, and returns in gold are re-
ceived. But the prospects of abundant
harvest in Europe are such, that this
branch of export trade cannot be relied
upon for another year. If, when the ap-
proaching session of Congress shall ter-
minate, there should be a single specu-
lating bank in the country, it will be a
matter of surprise.

WASHINGTON, MAY 19.

There are now such large numbers of
troops in force both in Virginia and Mary-
land, that with the aid of telegraphs,
railroads, and steamers, a blow may be
struck on either hand at almost any hour,
but no formal engagement can take place
for a long time, unless the federal troops
shall march upon Richmond. But in that
direction we hear that General Lee is
throwing up batteries at Fredericksburg,
(on the line of railroad from Aquia creek,) and
a column advancing upon Richmond
would probably have to encounter field-
works on the line of the Rappahannock,
and the tributary of York river in front
of that city. Bonaparte never failed to
use the above up to the latest moment
possible before an engagement in which
an important point might be one for
desperate struggle.

Republican Congressmen say that the
reason of the late hurrying up of troops
to this point from the North, was because
Gen. Scott found that troops were con-
centrating in Virginia much faster than
he had anticipated.

The troops here are going rapidly into
camp upon the high grounds in flank and
rear of the city, but there are no indica-
tions that field-works are to be thrown up
thereon, as has been suggested in the New
York administration papers. The com-
mand of the Potomac precludes the neces-
sity of such steps at present.

A part of the military programme of
the federal government is to have seventy-
two thousand troops in or near this city
by the fourth Thursday of this month.
From the notices of military movements
which appear in the Northern papers, it
is evident that such a number, now when
communications are opened, can be easily
brought here. It is probably the purpose
to leave a portion of these troops in the
city, and employ the rest elsewhere should
there be any occasion for it.

Nothing has been done yet towards the
fortification of the city and environs. It
is said that Gen. Cass has written to ad-
vise against the fortifications of the city

but in favor of fortifying the heights
fronting it.

BANK SUSPENSION.

Albany, N. Y., May 19th.—There has
recently been a change of affairs in the
Bank of Albany, and some difficulties dis-
covered in the accounts in consequence of
which the bank suspended business to-day
for the purpose of instituting a thorough
investigation into its affairs.
Another dispatch says the affairs of the
bank are in a very bad condition. Its
entire capital is undoubtedly gone, but it
is believed its assets will be sufficient to
pay depositors.

Miscellaneous.

How LAURENCE Merriam, the Brooklyn
weather prophet, has discovered that Secession
is an atmospheric phenomenon. He says:
"The atmospheric waves that produced such a
frantic state in the human mind in Syria, has
passed slowly westward in the path of the sun,
and its influence are seen in the same par-
allel on this continent. Syria is between 31
deg. and 37 deg. north latitude.

ANGUST WARPAKE—Warfare, in the days
of Caesar, was no mere child's play. In nine
years he had conquered 800 tribes, 800 cities,
slain a million of men, and taken a million
prisoners. After he had become master of the
world, he entertained the whole Roman popu-
lation at 23,000 tables, furnished with every
luxury. He made an artificial lake, for the
purpose of showing the assembled a sample
of naval warfare.

THE UNKNOWN.—A Unknown similar to that
mentioned in the Scriptures and in ancient
writings, is said to have been found in Tibet,
India. It is about the size of a horse, and ex-
tremely wild. They have a horn projecting
from their foreheads, and go in herds.

FOUR DECK.—George Sanders was at Mont-
gomery on the 4th of March, but did not fail
to annoy old Buck with one of his telegrams,
following up those which he sent from Balti-
more